

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

see Form PCT/ISA/220 [rubber stamp]

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see Form PCT/ISA/210 (sheet 2)

Applicant's or agent's file reference see Form PCT/ISA/220		FOR FURTHER ACTION. See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. PCT/EP2004/010088	International filing date (day/month/year) 10.09.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 17.09.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC G02B6/38			
Applicant KRONE GMBH			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application



2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires earlier.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA</p> <p> European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Netherlands Tel.: +31 70 340-2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340-3016</p>	<p>Authorized officer</p> <p>Cohen, A</p> <p>Telephone No. +31 70 340-2265</p> <p></p>
---	--

Best Available Copy

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

20/571409

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/010088

Box No. I. Basis of this opinion

AP20 REC'D PCT/EP 09 MAR 2006

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/010088

Box No. II. Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not yet been furnished:
- ☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).
 - ☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).
- Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.
2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.
3. Additional observations, if necessary:

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Statement

Novelty	Yes:	Claims	6
	No:	Claims	1-5,7-13
Inventive Step	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	1-13
Industrial Applicability	Yes:	Claims	1-13
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Box V.

IP20 Rec'd PCT/EP 09 MAR 2006

1. The following documents are referred to in this report:
 D1: US 6 206 580 B1 (SUZUKI NOBUHIKO ET AL) 27 March 2001 (2001-03-27)
 D2: EP 0 076 513 B (TOYOTA MOTOR CO LTD; SUMITOMO ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES (JP)) 20 August 1986 (1986-08-20)
 D3: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN Volume 2000, No. 05. 14 September 2000 (2000-09-14) -& JP 2000 039538 A (FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CO LTD; THE; AMP JAPAN LTD), 8 February 2000 (2000-02-08)
2. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1
 - 2.1 The present application does not satisfy the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of Claim 1 is not novel in the sense of PCT Article 33(2). The document D1 discloses (the references in brackets relate to this document):
 A housing for fiber-optic plug connectors (21), with the housing having at least two parts (Abstract; figure 1), in which housing one end of a conductor cable (5) can be positioned and the position of the conductor cable in the housing can be secured (column 6, line 54 to column 7, line 1), and a housing part (22) has an opening (33), and the housing part can be latched over a conductor cable through the opening in a transverse direction (column 6, lines 50-53).
 - 2.2 The documents D2 and D3 also disclose all of the features of Claim 1.
3. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 9
 - 3.1 The present application does not satisfy the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of Claim 9 is not novel in the sense of PCT Article 33(2). The document D1 discloses (the references in brackets relate to this document):
 A method for laying fiber-optic cables (Abstract) in which at least one end of a conductor cable (5) is laid to a plug-in location, the end of a conductor cable is positioned in one housing part (23), and the position of the conductor cable in the housing part is latched by means of at least one second housing part (column 6, line 54 to column 7, line 1), and a housing part is formed with an opening (33) and is latched over the conductor cable in a transverse direction (column 6, lines 50-53).
 - 3.2 The documents D2 and D3 also disclose all of the features of claim 9.
4. DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-8 AND 10-13

Claims 2-8 and 10-13 contain no features which in combination with the features of any claim to which they relate satisfy the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) with regard to novelty or inventive step.